

315 Kettle Ct., *Slinger, WI 53086*
August 11, 1999

Dr. Michael Friedman
Lead Deputy Commissioner
Federal Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

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Dear Dr. Friedman:

It has come to my attention that the FDA oversees the 1938 Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Even though the FDA does not, by law, require animal testing of cosmetics and personal care items, it makes it much easier for manufacturers to "prove" the safety of their products if they simply use the decades-old, archaic animal tests that the FDA is so used to reviewing. In other words, non-animal tests are an inconvenience for the FDA because the FDA is used to dealing with animal tests. Please **refrain from suggesting animal tests in the guidelines you issue. Approve non-animal tests and accept only such tests as proof of product safety. Stop requiring animal tests from pharmaceutical manufacturers.** No amount of animal tests can ever predict whether a drug is safe and useful for humans. It can only be assessed following careful clinical observations of human patients. If animal testing is so reliable, then why is it that each year the FDA is forced to pull off the shelves many pharmaceutical drugs that it has previously found "safe?"

Animal research is **invalid and counterproductive.** Far from saving human lives, vivisection is responsible for the relentless and systematic destruction of our health, environment, and economy. Exposing the suffering of the animals will never end the horrifying business of vivisection. You are perpetrating **fraud.**

Every species of animal is a different biomechanical and biochemical entity. Non-human animals are different not only from humans, but also from each other anatomically, physiologically, immunologically, genetically, and histologically. Animals react differently to different drugs, vaccines, and chemical substances, not only from humans, but also from each other. Human diseases cannot be recreated in animals or in human beings. Once a disease is "recreated," it is artificial and is not longer the original, spontaneous disease that the body itself produced. Our environment is systematically destroyed by thousands of pesticides and toxicants that are found "safe" based on invalid and misleading animal tests. We spent two trillion dollars on "health care." After more than 100 years of massive animal-based research at a cost of countless billions of tax dollars, more deadly diseases of all kinds are affecting larger numbers of Americans. Human medicine cannot be based on veterinary medicine. The choice is not between rats and babies, but rather, between real science and counterfeit science.

Our tax dollars should not be spent on torturing animals! Please stop this barbaric, medieval activity!

Sincerely,

Janet K. Schinner

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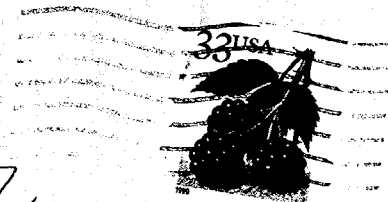
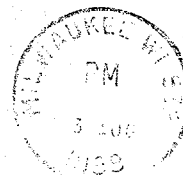
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FOR
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